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PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Serial No.: 09/889,116

Examiner: Nina Nmn Bhat

Inventors: Woltjes et al.

Group No.: 1761

Confirm. No.: 7934

Docket No.: 294-104 PCT/US

Filed: December 27, 2001

Dated: November 21, 2003

For: COMPOSITION BASED ON CROSS-LINKED  
STARCH AND DEPOLYMERIZED STARCH  
SUITABLE AS GELATINE REPLACEMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

*I hereby certify this correspondence and the documents referred to herein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on November 21, 2003.*

Signature: Ruthleen A. Sandoz

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111(a)**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on July 25, 2003 in the above-captioned application, Applicants submit herewith a Petition for An Extension of Time and respond as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are shown in the Listing of Claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.